

## **STATUS**

The above-captioned patent application is pending with Claims 1-45.

The examiner has objected to Applicant's claim of a priority on Application Nos. 09/348200 and 09/694404.

Claims 1-5, 11-21, and 25-39 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 14, 11-19 and 25-30 of Application No. 10/222506 to Myerson ("Myerson '506").

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, and 11-18 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by US Patent Application No 09/918935 to Myerson (Myerson '935).

The effective filing date of Claims 1, 3, 4, 9-14 and 16-18 and 20 has been deemed by the examiner to be 23 October 2000, the priority date of the parent US Patent Application No 09/694404 to Myerson, now US Patent No. 6426406 to Myerson (Myerson '406).

Claims 2, 5-7, 15, 19-23, 25-42, and 44 have been rejected as anticipated by Myerson '935.

Claims 8-10, 24, 43 and 45 are objected to as being dependant from a rejected base claim and are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim.

## **EXCESS CLAIMS FEE**

Applicant has paid the filing fee for 45 total claims and 3 independent claims. The present response adds 14 total claims, 3 independent claims, and cancels 0 claims. The excess claims fee of \$252.00 for a small entity is enclosed.